

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Huafang GAO et al.

Application No.: 10/562,803

Filed: (Int'l) July 18, 2003

For: DNA CHIP BASED GENETIC TYPING

Confirmation No.: 5370

Art Unit: 1634

Examiner: N. K. Bhat

**FIRST PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR CONTINUED
EXAMINATION**

MS RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

This Preliminary Amendment accompanies a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) for the above-referenced application. A final Office Action was mailed on July 30, 2008 (hereinafter “the OA”), for which a response is due on October 30, 2008. Accordingly, this response is timely filed. Prior to examination on the merits, Applicants respectfully request entry of this Preliminary Amendment for the above-referenced patent application. Reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims, as amended, in light of the remarks presented herein are respectfully requested.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 7 of this paper.